

CALL OF 5th AUGUST

5th August is one behest for us. For us—the leaders and workers of the SUCI, the working class of India, the toiling millions of the country.

By departing from us this day, our most beloved leader, teacher and guide adjured us to carry on at all costs the struggle for anti-capitalist socialist revolution through to success. To implement his revolutionary dream of emancipating the toiling masses of India from the bondage of capitalism, from exploitation and oppression of all sorts. It is for us to accomplish the revolutionary task he bequeathed to us.

His life is the foundation of the great revolutionary edifice we have pledged to build up. It is the living spirit in us, the supreme example of the struggle we must conduct ceaselessly within ourselves and within the society in all spheres to accomplish the revolutionary task. His teachings are our invincible weapon. Armed with it we can concretely analyse each and every concrete situation in all spheres of life. It is the beacon light guiding us through the present crucial stage to our cherished revolutionary goal.

5th August symbolises our boundless emotion for our most beloved departed teacher and our unflinching vow to carry out the behest of our great departed leader, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. It is the day not only to pledge ourselves anew to our revolutionary task, we must bend our energy to the last to carry our struggle one step forward responding to the call of 5th August.

It is for us to realize correctly the true significance of the present complex political situation of the country in the light of the great teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Ridden with all out crisis, the ruling bourgeoisie is increasingly taking recourse to a fascist order in its bid to perpetuate its class rule. And it is doing this maintaining a parliamentary facade to hoodwink the people. The class is shifting the entire burden of its crisis on to them and stripping them systematically of their hard earned democratic rights. The accredited ruling party of the bourgeoisie, the Congress(I) led by Indira Gandhi, is amassing unbridled, anti-democratic repressive powers in the hands of the Central Government through a series of authoritarian Acts and Ordinances in order to crush all legitimate democratic movements of the people against the Government's misrule and oppression.

On the other, social democratic parties like the CPI(M) and CPI are capitulating to the ruling class to win their patronage in order to be recognized as the alternative to the ruling Congress(I) in parliamentary politics. In naked pursuit of this object they are shamelessly trampling all the people's cause and mounting brutal onslaughts on the people's legitimate democratic movements in the States where they are in Governmental power now. It vindicates

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Hoax of Anti-inflationary measures

The Indira Gandhi Government, the most trusted agent of the monopolists is again on a deceptive move the net result of which will be further enhancement of people's miseries due to spiralling prices all around. What has been termed a bunch of measures, the Central Government have declared through the Prime Minister's press conference, import of wheat when the government stock is said to be sound, enhancement of prices of Petrol and Petrol products substantially and upto now, the latest by an ordinance raising the rate of compulsory deposit for high-range income groups and the bank rate besides making payment by cheque of the deposit with interest when it is Rs. 10,000 or more by banks, companies, co-operatives and partnership firms, will not make any dent in containing inflation.

The deceptive tricks are palpable. The ordinance measures are more for wearing a radical cloak than effectively checking the inflation. Other measures are to bridge the deficit gap in the budget at the cost of further stoking the fire

of inflation. Let us examine the measures one by one.

Take the case of import of food grains. The government says that it has a stock of 13 million tonnes. There is therefore no earthly reason for importing wheat to the tune of 1.5 million tonnes when not only its stock both at government and private hands are sufficient to meet

the home requirement. Again this is being done at a higher cost (Rs. 160 per quintal when the home market price is Rs. 130 per quintal). This will entail Rs. 240 crores for the 1.5 million tonne import at the minimum. If the private traders are hoarding the foodgrains then why the government fights shy of taking administrative

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Comrade Nihar Mukherjee on the price rise of petrol, petrol products

Calcutta 11th July, 1981:

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary, SUCI has issued the following statement to the Press:

"The sudden announcement of increase in the prices of petrol, diesel and kerosene with effect from 11th July, 1981 by 53 32 and 15 paise per litre respectively and of urea by Rs. 350 per ton will further add to the inflationary trend and thereby cause further rise in transport and freight charges adversely affecting all sector of the economy. This is a severe blow on our people 70% of whom live below the poverty line. This unprecedented price rise within so short interval of time only shows how the government on each and every occasion passes the burden of the crisis on to the shoulder of the poor people.

"We strongly protest against this price rise of petrol products and call upon the people to organise a united mass movement to thwart this sinister design".

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Meeting

SAHEED MINAR MAIDAN • 5th August • 5 P.M.

Main Speaker : COMRADE NIHAR MUKHERJEE

President : COMRADE SACHIN BANERJEE

School of Politics at Jaynagar Organised by West Bengal Committee of AIDSO

The West Bengal State Committee of AIDSO organised a three-day School of Politics on July 4, 5 and 6 at Jaynagar in the District of South 24 Parganas. Held amidst continuous and heavy downpour, the organisers had to face many difficulties in preparing the school and the participants also were confronted with many an inconvenience. But the school created a great stir and enthusiasm among all the DSO workers who attended it and left them with a newer and heightened spirit for the work for revolutionary struggle.

The school of politics started on July 4 with an inaugural mass meeting at the open ground beside the Rup O Arup Theatre Hall. Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary of the SUCI was the speaker. And the two speeches of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat and our beloved leader, teacher and guide—which were his last public speeches, were reproduced from tape record. On the 5th and 6th July, four sessions were held in which the speeches of Comrade Ghosh delivered at another school of politics organised by the party in 1974 were played on tape record. More than 2000 students participated from all the districts of West Bengal. Also a few students from Assam, Bihar and Orissa attended as fraternal delegates.

Inaugural Meeting

It started raining earlier in the day and continued while the inaugural meeting was being held. Apart from the delegates a large number of students, youths, peasants and all sections of the people of Jaynagar had crowded in the Maidan. A beautifully decorated dais was erected. But the heavy shower made it impossible to use it. So the meeting had to be started inside the Hall. But how could a theatre-hall provide space to thousands of people? So naturally the major part of audience stood on the open ground beneath the sky in the midst of ince-

ssant rain. But they stood, firmly and silently, defying the natural odds, and with all seriousness and attention, they heard the taped speeches of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh the great Marxist thinker of our time and the address of Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, the worthiest successor to Comrade Ghosh.

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, in his brief emotional address reminded the gathering that it was this same Hall where the SUCI, the real revolutionary party of the proletariat was founded through its first conference 33 years back in 1948. At that time when Comrade Ghosh ventured into this seemingly impossible uphill historic task he had nothing with him—no shelter, no press backing, no renowned leader, no backing of the international communist parties—except the ideology and the firm resolve to fulfil the mission of Indian revolution. And the party that started its on-march with a handful of young dedicated and determined volunteers, had in course of these 33 years expanded its organisation in no less than 18 states. Comrade Mukherjee declared amidst prolonged applause that the party would after the revolution erect a memorial around this historic hall as Comrade G. S. desired. Referring to the tapes of the speeches of Comrade Ghosh to have been played after his address, Comrade Mukherjee recalled the period when these speeches were delivered. Mass movements had been surging forth here and there in the country, West Bengal was also seething with growing discontent among the people. Given a correct line and direction under a real revolutionary leadership, these movements could create a new history. Comrade Ghosh tried his utmost to fulfil this task. But the task

remained unaccomplished. He departed from us in the mid way. But he left to us, his disciples, a vast treasurehouse of knowledge and the unparalleled example of his character which will guide us in our on-going struggle for ages to come. Movements are again bursting forth over the country, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee observed. So, if these are to be led successfully to their logical culmination, all of us should cultivate the invaluable teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, develop ourselves as his worthy disciples and learn to build up and conduct mass movements by applying his teachings. This school of politics, Comrade Mukherjee urged, should be viewed from this standpoint.

Then the voice of Comrade Ghosh, the beloved G. S. of thousands of his disciples, was heard in the microphone. It was raining still. But the great leader's voice asked: ".....I like to ask you—do you hope to accomplish revolution with comfort? For a revolution, people have to starve days together, undergo sufferings from raining, from scorching sun. Can revolutionary movement wait when it rains or when the sun blazes?.....You are facing difficulties, I know. But what is the difference between man and animals? The difference lies in the fact that the animals are totally subjugated to natural laws and uncontrolled reflexes, cannot overcome them. But man, decides his duties through his intelligence in a cool brain—whatever be the difficulties, from natural calamities or any disaster, and discharges his responsibilities and works".

The delegates were deeply impressed and imbued with these words. Despite so many difficulties, they never faltered in maintaining the strict discipline demanded of

political workers and enjoyed the camp life with all earnestness and fervour.

The Sessions of the School of Politics

The speeches which were reproduced from tape in the four sessions—two each day of 5th and 6th July, were delivered by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh our beloved leader and teacher in a school of politics organised by the party at Calcutta in 1974. Questions were invited from party workers on the problems of organisation, and movement as well as those centring round the personal life, and were placed before Comrade Ghosh. With his usual lucidity he not only answered the questions, but threw light on many subtle aspects of the problems of life which are engendered by the decadent capitalist society and the impact of which, if not detected in time and fought out properly, tends to eat into the very vitals of the revolutionary character, or leads to failure and frustration.

Some comrades ask that they understand the necessity of revolution and the necessity to build up and strengthen revolutionary party for it; but they cannot work well—why? Comrade Ghosh in his answer asked in reverse—do they really realise? Do they know what does this 'realising' the necessity of 'revolution' mean? To understand it only by its face-value, only superficially is not realisation proper. The real realisation of revolution begins only when after grasping the theoretical points by reason and intellect and with emotion a man joins the party, takes up responsibility and leads mass movements under the leadership of the party. And the more you work, the more responsibility you shoulder, the better and clearer becomes your

realisation of revolution.

Delving into the philosophical bearing of this question Comrade Ghosh said: According to Hegel, freedom is the recognition of necessity. This necessity does not connote the personal necessity of mine or yours or any individual's. The scientific concept of necessity is the consciousness of the inherent process of and the laws governing a phenomenon. If you can correctly study and understand the laws governing the evolution of life, the changing processes of matter, the social development and the direction they follow and can actively engage yourself with the revolutionary movement of the country, it is then, and then only that you scientifically realise the concept of necessity. And then by being able to consciously act on the processes and to direct our struggles in a correct way, we achieve freedom in our life, character and activities. As you engage yourself more and more in the struggle, your realisation of freedom become deeper, clearer and brighter. Again you cannot fight for your own freedom without fighting for the freedom of others.

Comrade Ghosh then pointed out that to achieve freedom in the true sense means to lead an honourable life. 'I am free' means—I do not submit to injustice, wrong, and untruth, my conscience is free to stand for justice and truth, my self dignity does not allow me to yield. Money and affluence cannot beget dignity, neither can an IAS officer, a high court judge, Minister or an ambassador who have earned a lot, possessed cars, and are shown outward respect by commonfolk, taste the real sense of dignity. In this society self-dignity if understood correctly has one and only one meaning—the only way to lead your life honourably is to engage yourselves constantly in the struggle of the masses for justice against all sorts of injustice

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To resist the onslaught build up strong democratic mass movement

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measures against them is the very natural question. People are aware that at the time of reintroduction of Preventive Detention Act or the National Security Ordinance, subsequently made an Act, the government assured that those would be applied not against democratic movement but against the hoarders, black-marketeers, the economic offenders and anti-social elements. But what is the experience? Have they been used against a single unscrupulous businessman? No. But they have been used and are being used against political opponent party workers, organisers, trade union leaders. So the intention is very clear. The ruling parties whether at the Centre or in states would not touch the traders, businessmen and industrialists engaged in fleecing the common people. The government would not bother to fritter away precious foreign exchange reserves for import of food-grain but would allow the hoarders and black marketeers to perpetrate their black deeds. Such is the conspiracy against the people by the parties now ruling the country.

Next comes the question of raising the price of petrol and petrol products. On previous occasion, just few months back, the ostensible plea was hike in oil prices by OPEC countries. Is it for that reason now? No. The reason adduced this time is fantastic, to say the least. It is due to 'increased cost' of exploration of oil and for 'restricting' its use. The advanced capitalist countries like the USA have also brought control over the use of oil but for this they did not take this kind of measure. Does the government believe that people here are living in a world of fantasy? The real reason does not remain a secret.

The government wants to earn few hundred crores (Rs. 1200 crores) as revenues to bridge the ever widening gap of deficit in the budget after its attempt to persuade the black-money holders to cough out even some negligible portion of black-money through the bearer bonds flopped miserably. Since then, the Finance Minister was threatening punishment to the business community. Now, instead of punishing the business community, its chief patron, the common people are being punished. For, who does not know that the increase in the prices of petroleum products would lead to usual chain reaction in rise of prices of all essential commodities including fares of transport? The businessmen will rather augment their profits on the plea of this hike in petrol prices.

Then about the ordinance. What does it mean? It means, persons earning annually Rs. 50,000 to 70,000 will have to deposit more from the present rate of 12.5% to 15% and those above, 18% in place of 15%. What is the percentage of these groups? Very little. Because only the salaried people or people whose earnings are accounted for will come under the purview. That is why it will be more on paper than having any real impact on the economy. This fact has been stated and restated in various taxation inquiry reports. But still the government thinks that this measure will help "restrain conspicuous consumption." Whom they are fooling?

Under the second ordinance, Income Tax Amendment Ordinance—banks, companies, co-operative societies and partnership firms will be required to repay deposit made with them by any person through account-payee cheques or bank drafts if the deposit with interest is Rs. 10,000 or more. If not, then, cash

payment has been allowed. 'The ordinance does not apply to savings bank or current bank account deposits, according to an official classification'.

However, banks including cooperative banks will be permitted to repay any deposit made with them by a person who has an account with the bank by crediting the account of such person. What relevance it has got with detecting black-money? Do the black-money holders keep their bank accounts in such a way that the government can track them down? Are they so naive? What a brilliant piece of innovation! And still the government which gives enough margin to those for whom it is meant to manoeuvre, claims that this measure will help detecting benami transaction to locate black-money!

Allied with these measures is the announcement from RBI of raising the bank rate to 10% from the present rate of 9%. The liquidity ratio of scheduled commercial banks has also been increased 1% from 34 to 35%. This is for controlling bank finance to industries and business which will be costlier hence forth. Not that this style of solution was not attempted before but it flopped because enough liquid cash or black money is in private hands and secondly the industry has shown its capability to raise funds from private sources at higher rate of interest. But the government knowing this fact fully well is for diverting the bank funds, initially estimated, about Rs. 900 crores to government spending. It also expects to raise the earnings of the banks by increased bank rate a sum of Rs. 350 crores which will also go to feed the government requirements. As to this government requirement, it is a known fact that it is more for defence, police, admini-

Be equal to the task, Uphold the revolutionary banner of Marxism—Comrade Nihar Mukherjee's ardent call

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and exploitation. All the other ways to living brings deception and vanity—not dignity.

Elaborating further this point in the next session Comrade Ghosh said: Real knowledge, wisdom which is altogether a different thing from informative knowledge and scholasticism, is creative, active. It leads us to action. So if you grasp the correct concept of freedom, and come forward to read your life in an honourable way, you will then have to learn the essence of Marxism-Leninism. You will feel yourself identified with the oppressed millions, and understand

that by leaving your family you will have to develop heartfelt relation with them all. If the tears of my few relations desert me from the path of truth does it mean that I submit to tenderness and affection? No. Tenderness, affection these are not same as weakness. These passionate feelings do not make a man weak. Weakness grows from cowardliness. Compassion, emotional feelings are not incompatible with revolution. But why should I sacrifice my principle, ideology, conscience or refrain from the struggle for these feelings? This knowledge about freedom leads us to the struggles of the masses—we go to the masses to build up

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tration etc. non-developmental expenditure than for building industries and services to cater to the needs of growing army of unemployed. But the cost of borrowing by the capitalists having thus gone up, it will surely be transferred on to the shoulders of common people. This is the real meaning of so-called anti-inflationary measures which should better be termed inflationary measures.

Now, what the people will do? Will they be the dumb spectators to this kind of daylight robbery in the name of fiscal management? They can well see that CPI(M), CPI and other party leaders who defend the establishment are mouthing criticisms about these measures but none speaks of developing a serious fight against the government which is of paramount importance. This is but natural; because all these parties are competing among themselves to be the alternative of the same very exploiting ruling bourgeois class at the

national level. And when they will come to power they will do exactly the same thing as is evident from their performances of the State Governments they run. They have done nothing to save the people from profiteering, black-marketeering even with the administrative powers that the State Governments, they run, possess. So, their so-called criticism is only for finding a plea for further rise in bus fares or price rise of other commodities for which the people may get agitated. This is the political motive of these parties.

In today's political perspective, there is only one, yes only one, political party in the country, the SUCI that is striving hard with all sincerity to build up a powerful democratic mass movement. For, in its opinion, this alone can be the really effective deterrent against the combined exploitation of the ruling capitalist class and its subservient governments. There is no other alternative. Will not the people grasp this bare truth?

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the warning of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh that with accentuation of the crisis of capitalism the social democratic parties increasingly and openly appear in the role of defender of the ruling capitalist class. These parties are breaking the backbone of mass movement from within, undermining the people's fighting spirit and destroying their cultural, moral and ethical standard.

The bourgeois and social democratic parties have ganged up against the people. They are deceiving the people and committing every treachery on them. They are trying every nefarious means to corrupt the youth power of the country and purchase it with the object of destroying this vital force of democratic mass struggle and exploit the same to fulfil their petty parliamentary interests. To undermine the people's unity and foil their united struggle against capitalist exploitation and oppression, these parties have taken to the heinous course of fostering and fomenting—directly or indirectly—the parochial, regional and communal tendencies among the people and reaping dividends through this in the nasty game of parliamentary politics. They are only vying with one another in a mockfight to grab the parliamentary power.

This capitalist social order is encumbering the people like a dead mass of rock. It has nothing to offer to the people. Our task is, as Comrade Shibdas Ghosh taught us, to overthrow this order and establish the socialist order in its place in order to solve the basic problems in our life. To that end, as taught by our great teacher, we must build up legitimate democratic mass movements on the burning issues of the people's life. We must build up people's committees at all levels and all corners as people's own instrument of struggle. The masqueraders of Marxism, parties like the CPI(M) and CPI, have thrown into dust today the banner of Leftism. Only our party, the SUCI, has engaged itself single handedly in organising people's movements all over the country today particularly against the anti-people language and education policies of the Central and State Governments. And the party has successfully conducted the people's movement in West Bengal forcing the 'Left Front' Government of the State to withhold implementation of its anti-people language policy for the time being.

5th August comes this year in the midst of these movements under the party's banner. So, the Central Committee headed by our beloved leader Comrade Nihar Mukherjee has decided to observe the 5th Death Anniversary of our great leader in a way that truly prepares the ground for a greater movement throughout the length and breadth of the country, embracing all sections of the toiling people.

We must remember that the people's movement will have to be built, as our great teacher taught us, on the edifice of the proletarian higher culture, ethics and morals in order to make the movement conducive to anti capitalist socialist revolution. The Central Committee has, therefore, directed us to start an ideological-cultural movement first within the party, embracing all leaders and workers. We must devote ourselves to learning and relearning the invaluable revolutionary teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh covering all aspects of life and to applying them in our life.

5th August calls upon us—the leaders and workers of the SUCI, the working class of India, the toiling

School Of Politics

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their movements under the leadership of the revolutionary party, we live with them, share their sufferings and tears as friends and guides. We dissociate ourselves from the narrow confines of our family, but we create new relations, deeper, more emotional, more passionate with larger and larger number of persons.

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh discussed on many other questions relating to the organisation, mass movement, united front policy, national and international situation. All these discussions, alluring and inspiring, made seven years back, were appearing to be as current as it would have been the case, had Comrade Ghosh lived to this day to be personally present there and to deal with these questions. Those comrade who had seen him and attended his classes recalled with pride those precious moments when Com. Ghosh had discussed their problems in the '74-school. The new comrades felt as if Comrade Ghosh

was answering their questions and dealing with their problems, the questions that haunt them, the problem they face.

His appeal in conclusion of the discussion roused every delegate to the full sense of their tasks ahead: Every one of you take political initiative, work and create work with all sincerity and earnestness whatever you can, remain with the masses to build up their instruments of struggles and the party organisation, and engage yourselves wholeheartedly in the struggle to constantly heighten the standard of your character and culture; I can assure you, revolution is not too far off today. The quicker you will fulfil these tasks, the speedier will be the advent of revolution.

After the discussions from the tape were over, the documentary film on the 'Last Journey' of Comrade Ghosh was shown. All the comrades were charged with deepest of emotion and reverence to this great leader, their minds still immersed in

the vast ocean of his teachings. All of them stood in ovation and in full unison with the background voice of the film, they pledged: We will remember your teachings Comrade Ghosh in every moment of our existence. We will engage ourselves with all forces to build up mass movements all over the country to lead them to successful culmination, to pave the way for revolution. You are no more with us. But in your teachings and thoughts you will remain ever living to us. We will develop our character through the constant cultivation of the vast treasury of knowledge you handed down to us keeping the great example of your life as the highest model of communist character. Whatever be the odds and adversities in the long route of revolution however fierce be the attack of the enemy, the capitalist class and the traitors, the social democratic forces, upon us, we will keep your flag flying fulfil your behests to carry on the revolution and thereby prove ourselves worthy of the honour of being your disciples and successors.

Bus fare rise resistance movement in Orissa

The Congress (I) Government in Orissa has come down with heavy hands on the anti Bus Fare Rise Movement led by our party SUCI and its frontal organisations AIDS, UTUC (LS) etc. On 1st July last the police arrested twenty one volunteers of SUCI, AIDS and Rourkela Workers' Union including two girl students at the

Sector 2 bus terminus at Rourkela while they were demonstrating and picketing against the recent bus fare rise by as much as 50% by the Orissa Government. Among others who were arrested were SUCI leaders Comrades Bishnu Das Sundergarh District Committee Sunil Kabi, General Secretary, Rourkela Workers' Union, Chhabhi Mohanti, eminent

student leader of All Orissa Students' Action Committee, Sankar Dasgupta, Incharge, DSO, Sundargarh District Committee, Bidyutlata Mohanti, student leader of S. K. Das Women's College.

The Police has also issued arrest warrant even against State Leaders of SUCI including Comrade Tapas Dutta, Secretary, Orissa State Committee of SUCI.

In this connection it should be noted that the 6-Party combination of CPI, CPI (M), Lok Dal, Janata Congress (U) etc. showed lukewarm attitude to develop any effective movement. Under the circumstances SUCI alone took up the responsibility to build up mighty resistance movement on this issue and despite all onslaught from all vested quarters is carrying on the movement

millions of the country—to bend our energy to fulfil the revolutionary behest of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. That way, that way alone, we can pay our genuine homage to our most beloved, great departed leader.

"Today in India in every direction we see mass awakening of a new kind.

Arising everywhere are workers, peasants and the middle class.

And waging battle to establish a society free from all exploitation.

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, our inspiration, we are armed with your great thought.

We all yearning for emancipations here pay you tribute in Red Salute".

Editor-in-Chief—NIHAR MUKHERJEE